

Message Text

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ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01

CIAE-00 OFA-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8747

INFO USUN NEW YORK 648

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS NAIROBI 3279

VIENNA FOR IAEA & UNIDO

PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNEP, SENV

SUBJ: UNEP: GOVERNING COUNCIL - FOURTH SESSION

1. DELEGATES FROM KENYA, CHINA, COLUMBIA, SWEDEN, VENEZUELA, FRANCE, UNITED KINGDOM, KUWAIT, IRAN, JAPAN, U.S., CANADA, NORWAY, CYPRUS, AN OBSERVER FROM ISRAEL AND AN IACA SPOKESMAN WERE AMONG THOSE WHO ADDRESSED THE PLENARY SESSION ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 31ST.

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2. CHINA SAW THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION DEVELOPING IN FAVOR OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHO WERE "BREAKING DOWN MANY

BARRIERS IMPOSED BY THE SUPERPOWERS". HE ALSO ASSERTED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS ARE THE RESULT OF THE SUPER-POWERS' EXPLOITATIONS AT HOME AND PLUNDERINGS ABROAD.

3. KENYA URGED THAT THOSE COUNTRIES WITH GREAT POTENTIAL FOR ESTABLISHING PARKS AND GAME RESERVES SHOULD BE HELPED BY INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES TO COMPENSATE PEOPLE WHOSE LANDS MIGHT BE TAKEN OVER FOR THESE PURPOSES. RE HABITAT, THE MINISTER URGED THAT UNEP BE GIVEN PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT IN ITS ENTIRETY. EFFORTS TO WEAKEN UNEP BY SCATTERING ITS FUNCTIONS UNITS SHOULD BE RESISTED.

4. THE SWEDISH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE CALLED FOR ACCELERATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL NETWORK FOR MEASURING ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION OF ALL KINDS. THIS WAS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT REGARDING THE LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION ACID PRECIPITATION HAD SERIOUSLY AFFECTED 10,000 LAKES IN SWEDEN.

5. COLUMBIA ASSERTED THAT ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IS THE ROOT OF THE WORLD PROBLEM AND THAT COUNTRIES WHICH CONTAMINATE ARE DOOMED TO EXTINCTION. VENEZUELA URGED BETTER COMMUNICATIONS AND WORLD WIDE PUBLICITY OF GOALS IN ORDER TO WIN MORE SUPPORT FOR UNEP. THE UNITED KINGDOM CHARACTERIZED THE LAST YEAR FOR UNEP AS A PERIOD OF PREVAILING UNCERTAINTIES WHICH CALLS FOR ARTICULATING MORE CLEARLY THE IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF UNEP'S CHIEF PROGRAMS AND AND NOT PROLIFERATING PROGRAMS THAT CAN ACHIEVE LITTLE. THE SPOKESMAN FOR ISRAEL, AS AN OBSERVER IN THE GOVERNING COUNCIL NOTED THE AGREEMENT OF NATIONS ALONG THE MEDITERRANEAN TO OVERCOME POLLUTION THEREOF, AS A MAJOR UNEP ACCOMPLISHMENT WHICH ALSO DEMONSTRATES THE AGENCY'S IMPORTANT ROLE IN HELPING NATIONS TO CONFRONT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

6. THE REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE POINTED OUT THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD PAID ITS PLEDGE TO UNEP AND REQUESTED
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ALL OTHER MEMBERS HONOR THEIR PLEDGE. "ALL STATES SHOULD COOPERATE AND NOT SLOW DOWN THE PROGRESS OF UNEP WHICH IS SHOWING REAL RESULTS", HE CONCLUDED.

7. JAPANESE DELEGATE STATED UNEP SHOULD REAFFIRM ITS BASIC DIRECTIVE, ITS FIRM COMMITMENT TO THE PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT BY CONCENTRATING ITS FUND RESOURCES ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF VITALLY IMPORTANT PROJECTS. HE ALSO STATED THAT THE MOMENTUM GENERATED BY THE STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE FOR

THE PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF HUMAN ENVIRONMENT SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AND EVEN INCREASED, AND THAT GREAT IMPORTANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO UNEP'S UNIQUE FUNCTION OF COORDINATING ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM. FOR THESE REASONS, THE JAPANESE DELEGATION FEELS THAT WE SHOULD PROCEED WITH GREAT CAUTION ON THE QUESTION, PARTICULARLY IF IT INVOLVES THE MERGING OF ENVIRONMENT ORGANS SUCH AS UNEP AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AGENCIES LIKE UNDP, FOR SUCH MERGER MAY RESULT IN SETTING BACK THE WHOLE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES BY THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM.

8. THE DELEGATE FROM CYPRUS COMMENTED THAT THE SHORT-FALL IN CONTRIBUTIONS WITH ECONOMIC TIMES, SUCH AS THEY ARE, IS UNDERSTANDABLE AND THAT UNEP OUGHT TO BE FLEXIBLE AND SET PRIORITIES SO THAT ITS PROGRAMS CAN STAY WITHIN ITS FINANCIAL MEANS.

9. THE IAEA REPRESENTATIVE POINTED TO A FOUR-FOLD INCREASE IN THE PERIOD 77-76 IN THE AGENCY'S BUDGET FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT IAEA CARRYING OUT A FIVE YEAR PROJECT IN PREPARING A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF AUTHORITATIVE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED CODES AND GUIDES TO ENSURE COVERING EVERY SAFETY ASPECT OF THE CURRENT TYPES OF NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS.

MARSHALL

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